

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

NSA STAFF PROCESSING FORM

TO D/DIR	EXREG	* 58556 *	KCC CONTROL NUMBER J9673G-93
THRU ExecDir <i>9/26</i>	ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION		EXREG SUSPENSE KCC SUSPENSE ELEMENT SUSPENSE
SUBJECT FOIA Appeal - Sanho Tree - Institute for Policy Studies			
DISTRIBUTION ExecDir, ExReg, N5P5			

SUMMARY

PURPOSE: To provide a FOIA requester with a fifth set of VENONA translations, explain his judicial review rights, and provide him with a copy of the monograph that will accompany the public release.

BACKGROUND: Mr. Sanho Tree of the Institute for Policy Studies submitted a FOIA request in August 1993 for VENONA intercepts. (His letter indicates that he is interested in the contents of the messages.) All of the documents were denied in their entirety. Mr. Tree appealed in November 1993. Copies of 49 translations were sent to Mr. Tree on 10 July 1995, another 259 were sent on 10 October, 559 were sent on 4 March 1996, and 906 were sent on 12 July 1996.

This fifth partial appeal response provides Mr. Tree with copies of 1358 Venona translations which are scheduled to be released to the public on or about 1 October. It also explains his judicial review rights. This is the final set of best and final versions of the VENONA translations. A follow-up set of documents may be provided later which will include information withheld from previously released messages which no longer requires protection and copies of messages not located in the course of the other releases (these are mainly GCHQ finds of messages we did not locate in our search).

Deletions to the documents are made by NSA in accordance with (b)(1), (b)(3)/all statutes, and (b)(6) of the FOIA. For a detailed description of the rationale for withholding information, see tab (Redactions, 4th Release) inside. In addition, a complete listing of the names withheld and released, along with an explanation, can be found inside at tab (Names). The entire list of names is included for completeness because some of the names considered in the previous releases are also at issue in this release. (As we progress in the review of the documents, some names withheld in earlier releases are subsequently determined to be releasable.) A key to understanding which names appeared for the first time in each release is included on pages 1 and 2 of the list.

Copies of material processed by the British are also being released to the requester with this response. The documents have not been processed under the FOIA by NSA. We explain to the requester that the deletions (which have been "whited out") are consistent with NSA's deletions, but that if he requires additional processing of the material, he should notify us, and we will begin processing it under the FOIA.

Copies of the translations being released to the requester are available for review upon request. They are being held in OGC since they number over 2000 pages. Mr. Tree will receive those copies concurrent with the public release.

RECOMMENDATION: We recommend you sign the appeal response.

COORDINATION/APPROVAL

OFFICE	NAME AND DATE	SECURE PHONE	OFFICE	NAME AND DATE	SECURE PHONE
ExReg	<i>9/26/96</i>	963-3201			
D/GC	Vito T. Potenza	963-5548			
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